

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001



November 24, 2009

Reply to Attn of: General Law Practice Group

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA Employees at the 2009 Arianespace Annual Holiday Reception on December 3, 2009

NASA employees attending the reception have received an invitation to attend a 2009 Annual Holiday Reception hosted by Arianespace, Inc., on December 3, 2009, at the Long View Art Gallery, in Washington, D. C., from 6:30pm-10:30pm.

Approximately 250 individuals have been invited and expected to attend. This event will be a widely-attended gathering of aerospace industry representatives, members of Congress, NASA employees, and members of the Federal government. The event is a cocktail reception with hors d'oeuvres and a buffet. The estimated cost of the reception, which includes all food and beverages, is approximately \$50 per person.

I have determined that the attendance of NASA employees at the Arianespace event is in the interests of the Agency because it will further Agency programs and operations. Attendance at this event will allow discussion of issues of mutual interest with international and national business and government leaders, and will support NASA's statutory mandate to disseminate information concerning its activities and results.

Accordingly, NASA employees who have been invited to attend may accept free attendance at the event. However, NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect the event sponsor should seek an individual determination pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g)(3)(i) regarding participation in this event from their local ethics counselor. Moreover, NASA employees who are in non-career positions in which Executive Order 13490 requires signing an ethics pledge may only attend if they reimburse the sponsor the cost of the reception for themselves and their invited guests.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam F. Greenstone".

Adam F. Greenstone